



Census and Economic Information Center

Montana Department of Commerce

Release Highlights: October 20, 2005

MONTANA

All Industries Summary, 2002 Economic Census, Geographic Area Series <http://ceic.mt.gov/EconCen.htm>

Measuring the manufacturing base of the U.S. economy began in the 1810 Decennial Census. However, transportation, utilities, communications, finance, insurance and real estate industries were not fully covered in an economic census until 1992. During these two centuries, the national economy evolved dramatically. Instead of relying on a worker's brawn and machinery, today's economy relies on a worker's brain and technology.

Montana's economy, though, has not completely mirrored the nation's. Mining and manufacturing, two very capital-intensive industries, continue to provide employment to over 22,000 workers, almost 8% of the workforce in 2002. In 1997, these industries accounted for 9.4% of all jobs in Montana, excluding agriculture.

However, two knowledge-based industries made significant headway in terms of the number of establishments and employees between 1997 and 2002. The Professional, Scientific and Technical Services sector added 759 new establishments in this time period, an increase of 35.7%. Staffing the new establishments were accountants, architects, engineers, computer system analysts and scientists; in total, over 4,600 new jobs were created from 1997 to 2002. Health Care and Social Assistance, whose industries tend to be defined by the educational degree held by the practitioner, added 6,571 trained professionals between 1997 and 2002. This sector includes physicians, surgeons, dentists, nurses, counselors, and social workers.

Overall, the Retail Trade sector had the single largest workforce in 2002 with 52,891 workers. The second largest was the Health Care and Social Assistance sector with 51,770 employees in 2002.

Sector	Establishments	Employment
Mining	266	4,622
Utilities	221	3,057
Construction	4,025	22,506
Manufacturing	1,234	18,582
Wholesale Trade	1,485	13,728
Retail Trade	5,145	52,891
Transportation	1,148	9,094
Information	633	9,357
Finance & Insurance	1,803	13,596
Real Estate	1,416	4,763
Professional	2,886	15,617
Management of Companies	104	1,546
Administrative	1,299	12,616
Educational	188	876
Health Care & Social Assistance	3,032	51,770
Arts & Recreation	922	9,252
Accommodations & Food Services	3,260	40,918
Other (Consumer) Services	2,231	10,295
TOTAL	31,299	295,102

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